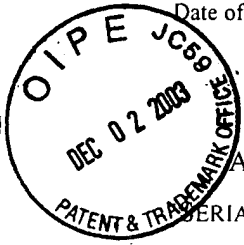


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Date of Deposit: December 2, 2003

PATENT APPLICATION  
Atty Docket: 15966-557 RCE (Cura-57 RCE)



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANTS : Shimkets and Prayaga

SERIAL NUMBER : 09/494,585

EXAMINER : Christine Saoud

FILING DATE : January 31, 2000

ART UNIT : 1647

FOR : NOVEL FIBROBLAST GROWTH FACTOR AND NUCLEIC ACIDS ENCODING SAME

**MAIL STOP**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313.1450

**PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), applicants hereby petition for a three (3) month extension of time for replying to the June 2, 2003, Office Action. With the extension, the present papers are due on or before December 2, 2003.

Check #17633 is enclosed to cover the \$475.00 Petition fee under 37 CFR §1.17(a)(3). The Examiner is authorized to charge any additional fees due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, reference no.15966-557 RCE (CURA-57 RCE). A duplicate copy of this Petition is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kristin E. Konzak, Reg. No. 44,848  
Attorney/Agent for Applicant  
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Dated: December 2, 2003

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